GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3445
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2016
Implementation of e-NAM Scheme
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are various States which have their own legislations which hinder the operations of National Agriculture Market at a slow pace;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to take various States on board to implement the policy of a National Agriculture Market;

(c) whether it is a fact that trading under e-NAM has been limited to respective mandi within a State and sellers cannot access outside the mandi and State, which compel them to sell their produce at lower remunerative price;

(d) if so, the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether there are standardize grading and quality checks for farm produce and dispute settlement mechanism including transportation charges under the e-NAM, if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the necessary steps taken by the Government for effective implementation of the scheme?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a): Agricultural marketing which is a State subject is regulated under the Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Acts, popularly called Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) Acts, Legislated by the respective States. Hence, the provisions may vary from state to state. However, the Government of India has shared a Model APMC Act, 2003 with all the States and Union Territories (UTs). Further, the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare has identified 3 pre-requisite provisions need for the APMC to join e-NAM platform and the States have been asked to amend their APMC Act to this effect. This is being done by them.

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(b): Government, through various platforms including regular interface, is actively pursuing it with the States and UTs to get the reform process completed at the earliest and expedite the proposal to integrate their mandis to e-NAM portal. The 3 essential amendments are (i) single trader license for the state; (ii) single point levy of market fee; and (iii) online conduct of auction.

(c) & (d): In the initial phase of implementation of e-NAM, on-line trading is largely taking place within the respective mandis. It has replaced physical auction, which was the general norm and brought in greater transparency and competitiveness in price discovery. Steps are being taken to put in the place needed agri-logistics and manpower that will enable inter-mandi trading on the e-NAM platform. In order to facilitate inter-mandi online trading across the States, some statutory changes may be required for which a Committee has been constituted to recommend necessary changes.

(e): Government has formulated tradeable parameters for 69 commodities identified by the State Governments. Based on these tradeablef parameters, commodities are to be tested in assaying labs and traded on the portal accordingly. Government uder the scheme of "Promotion of National Agriculture Market (E-NAM) through Agri-tech Infrastructure Fund (ATIF)", grants Rs. 30.00 lakh per mandi for developing the infrastructure which also includes assaying lab inter-alia. Some of the States have already made provision for dispute settlement. The buyers are responsible for lifting the material from the mandi and its transportation. All the States have been advised to put in place needed dispute resolution mechanisms.

(f); Government is closely monitoring & regularly reviewing the progress and further guiding the States for effective implementation of e-NAM.

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